



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Reviews

Four French Texts

Four texts of the new *Macmillan French Series*, which is under the general editorship of Professor Hugo P. Thieme of the University of Michigan, have been received for review. They are illustrated, contain questions on the text in French, English sentences for translation, and a varying amount of explanatory matter and vocabularies. The binding is quite appropriately in "horizon blue."

I

Le Roi des Montagnes by Edmond About, edited with introduction, notes, exercises and vocabulary by Frances B. Wilson. The Macmillan Co., 1919. vii+210+169 pp.

A brief sketch of the author is given in the introduction. A few short cuts are made in the text. The exercises at the end consist of questions in French based on the text and English sentences for translation.

II

Colomba, by Prosper Mérimée, edited with introduction, notes and vocabulary by Victor E. François. Drawings by Herbert Deland Williams. The Macmillan Co., 1919. x+178+126 pp.

This new edition of a favorite text is provided with a brief biography (in English) of the author, giving his setting in French literature. The numerous historical allusions and references to local customs are made clear in the explanatory notes, as are also the more difficult constructions. At the end there are questions on the text in French calling for simple answers, and English sentences for translation. The vocabulary is very complete.

III

Contes du Pays de Merlin, compiled by Helen W. Van Buren and illustrated by George Gillett Whitney. The Macmillan Co., 1918. xiii+105+56 pp.

These tales, dealing for the most part with the early history of Brittany, are very simply, yet pleasingly, told. They give touches of local color, refer to the costumes of the Bretons and

to their habits of thought and customs, and include occasional anecdotes in the lives of historical personages. They center about such historical or semi-historical characters as King Arthur and those associated with him, notably, Merlin; Comorre, the tyrant; Dagobert II and Florent, bishop of Strasbourg; Bertrand du Guesclin; Jeanne d'Arc; and Anne de Bretagne and her husbands, Charles VIII and later Louis XII.

There is a short introduction in English on the history of Brittany and the characteristics of its inhabitants, and each "Conte" is followed by a brief statement (also in English) of the historical basis for the more or less legendary tale. Each *Conte* is also provided with simple questions in French and with English sentences for translation.

The book is suitable for elementary classes.

Scenes of Familiar Life, arranged progressively for students of colloquial French, by Mrs. J. G. Frazer, with questionnaire by Messrs. Von Glehn and Sallé. Illustrated by H. M. Brock. The Macmillan Co., 1919. ix+214 pp.

The purpose of this little English publication, whose American edition is before us, is to provide "simple yet varied material for conversation classes" and for "practical training." This aim has been successfully carried out in twenty-six little dialogues presenting scenes from every-day life: an irritable old man at breakfast, venting his ill-humor on his faithful "gouvernante"; little play scenes of children, some quite amusing for young people; a conversation at the telephone; a scene in the Jardin des Plantes; a glimpse of how the omnibuses are managed in Paris, etc., etc. Taken all together these little scenes give a good many aspects of French life, manners, and customs.

The language abounds in the ordinary expressions that one would use about the house and in one's usual round of activities. The earlier scenes consist of four or five pages or even less, require from one to six actors, and contain but a modicum of the story element. The later ones are somewhat longer and call for eight or ten actors. All are lively and contain many amusing and unexpected turns.

Questions in French follow each dialogue, one set calling for the re-telling of the content in the past, another requiring explanations of words and idiomatic expressions used in the text.

The vocabulary contains a few Anglicisms. Special meanings are given as they occur in the text, with classification of those that are "familiar" and "very familiar."

A teacher seeking material for every-day conversation or for very simple plays will be pleased with this little series of animated sketches.

EDNA C. DUNLAP.

*Parker High School,
Chicago.*